SHRI RAM NAIK : Let them not intrude into our rights. At least our rights should be taken care of.

MR. SPEAKER : I know about that. I concede that. But I have permitted it. I will impress upon the Government that they should try to circulate it early.

SHRI RAM NAIK : At least, they must say so.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. They must say so.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : Now the Ordinances are issued for no plausible purposes. Because the Ordinance is going to be replaced by a Bill, we are allowing them such facilities. But what action has the Government taken since the Ordinance has been issued for establishment of the Telecom Regulatory Authority long back ? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This fresh Bill is coming as per the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : That is all right. But when the Ordinance was issued. there was no need to issue it. Now, because the Ordinance has been issued, we are just forgoing certain compliances.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, after the promulgation of the ordinance. TRAI has been constituted and nominations have also been made. This is a replacement Bill.

SHRI SURESH PRABU : But why in such a haste? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can perhaps assure the House. The Bill was to be circulated two days earlier. It could not be done. When the letter came to me, I allowed it.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, on behalf of the Government, I would just like to say that Mr. Ram Naik is absolutely right. The Bill should have been circulated at least two days in advance. But, in the circumstances, we request you to condone it and allow the hon. Minister to introduce the Bill ...*(Interruptions)*

I have checked up whether I am going to be faced with the same criticism in the next round ...*(Interruptions)* I am told by my office that it has been done two days in advance.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you say that this will not be repeated and the two hon. Ministers also say...

MR. SPEAKER : This should not be normally repeated.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I do not think, I am guilty of the same mistake ...*(Interruptions)* I believe, I am not. But I request that this may be condoned and he may be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, in this case, we have discovered not to our entire satisfaction - that the Minister of Finance is in the habit of introducing ordinances to bypass the Standing Committee. But it is not true in this particular case because he did take action in the meantime and the Bill was withdrawn only yesterday. In this case, such exception may not be taken. But in the case of the Minister of Finance, such exception...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : When we come, we will see to it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the telecommunication services, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I introduce* the Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chidambaram, you have overcome all the difficulties.

11.22 hrs.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1997**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce* the Bill.

---

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

** Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 15.3.97.